



The Old Ironsides Report

Tuesday, December 02, 2003

Japanese donor program brings \$1.5 billion to Baghdad

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Conrad College, 372nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq – The Japanese government has announced a new donor program, in which \$1.5 billion has been committed for humanitarian assistance to Iraq. Eligible projects include primary health care, primary education, poverty relief, public welfare and the environment.

Col. Terry Mitchell, chief government officer of the 354th Civil Affairs Brigade, an Army Reserve unit from Riverdale, Md, explained details of the announcement to representative civil affairs officers Nov. 26 at the Humanitarian Assistance Coordination Center in Baghdad.

The 354th, including its attached battalions, is the supporting civil affairs unit for the 1st Armored Division for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The funding will pay up to \$100,000 per project. So, up to 15,000 projects could be funded by this program, he said.

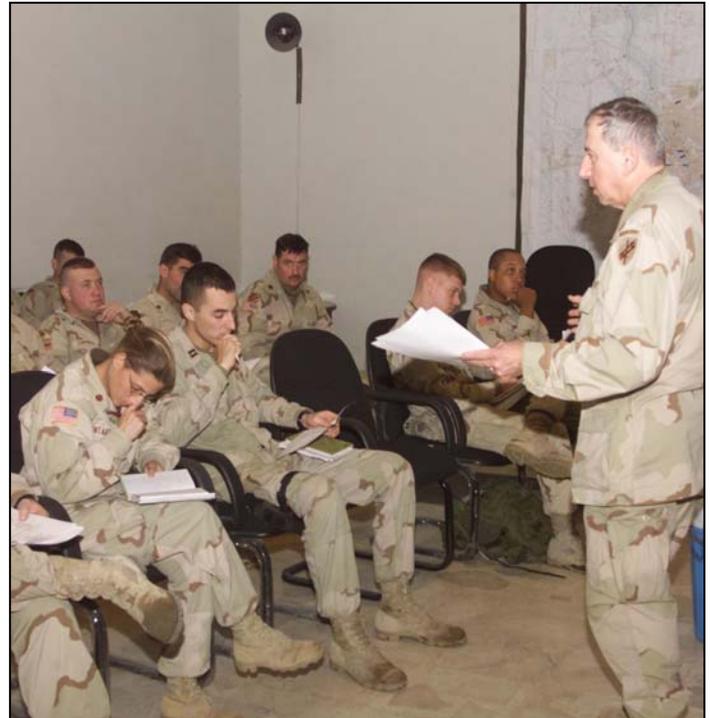
The funds may not be used for salaries or any kind of recurring expenses, Mitchell said. For example, he said, these funds may not be used to pay the salaries of personnel in the Iraqi Facility Protection Service.

Mitchell said the intent of the Japanese Donor Program is to provide grassroots development assistance. That is, at the lowest possible level, the local neighborhood, district and city advisory councils are to decide what projects they would like to have.

The intent is for the Iraqis themselves, at the lowest levels of government -- down to the neighborhood advisory councils -- to complete and submit the applications for the funds, thus learning lessons in democratic government and learning to take care of their own neighborhood, district or city areas.

"But, if anyone has applied for a grant," Mitchell said to the civil affairs officers, "You know it's pretty detailed work." So, he said the civil affairs officers could advise and mentor the Iraqi advisory councils on the first applications, to show them how it the process works.

Other guidelines, Mitchell said, are that the funds must be obligated by March 31, 2004. He said the projects do not have to be completed by that date, but the contracts to have the work or project done must be



Col. Terry Mitchell, standing, chief government officer of the 354th Civil Affairs Brigade, an Army Reserve unit out of Riverdale, Md., and part of Task Force 1st Armored Division, explains the Japanese Donor Program to civil affairs officers Nov. 26 at the Humanitarian Assistance Coordination Center in Baghdad.

signed by that date

.He said the application process consists of completing the application, supplying photos as appropriate, and getting two to three estimates from companies that can do the work, either local companies or non-governmental organizations.

The approval process, he said, includes of an examination of the application by the Japanese and a site visit. Then, if the application is approved, a grant contract will be issued and funds can be disbursed. Implementation of the project should be within a year of the approval.

Any modifications to the project must be approved in advance by the Japanese, he said.

News...

Court to Clarify on Juries Imposing Death

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Supreme Court said Monday it will clarify the impact of its ruling last year that juries, not a judge, must decide if a convicted killer lives or dies. The high court forced changes in the death penalty laws of five states in 2002 because those states gave judges the final say. But the court did not make clear how its ruling should apply retroactively to inmates already on death row.

Mideast Activists Launch Symbolic Accord

GENEVA (AP) - Israeli and Palestinian activists launched an unofficial peace treaty aimed at ending one of the world's most intractable conflicts, backed by a gathering of Nobel peace prize winners including former President Jimmy Carter. Still, strong opposition from Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and last-minute dissension within Palestinian ranks underscored the problems facing the plan - dubbed the "Geneva accord" - that resulted from two years of secret negotiations.

Activists Lead Rallies on World AIDS Day

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) - Tens of thousands of activists and health workers rallied worldwide Monday to mark World AIDS Day, and officials hailed new initiatives, new funding and a new pill to fight the disease that has infected 40 million people and kills more than 8,000 every day. The World Health Organization and UNAIDS promised cheaper drugs, simpler treatment regimens and more money as part of a campaign launched in Nairobi to provide 3 million HIV-infected people with the latest drugs available by the end of 2005 in a \$5.5 billion effort.

Homeland Security Ends Registration

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Department of Homeland Security is ending a program begun after the Sept. 11 terror attacks that required tens of thousands of mostly Middle Eastern men and boys to register with the government while in the United States, officials said Monday. Asa Hutchinson, the undersecretary for border and transportation security, said the department would focus more on individuals instead of "broad categories" of people. He said the program that required the foreigners to reregister after 30 days or a year continuously in the United States could be used again if there was another terrorist attack linked to a foreign country.

Safety Tip:

Accidents are caused by great people trying to do great things but failing to properly identify, assess, and control the hazards, whether through inattention, overconfidence, indiscipline, or a simple lack of knowledge.

Entertainment...

Fans Line New Zealand Streets for 'Rings'

By RAY LILLEY, Associated Press Writer
WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) -- New Zealand's usually sleepy capital came awake in a roar of celebration Monday as stars returned for the premiere of the final film in the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy, parading through the city in open cars flanked by black-shrouded horsemen, orcs and hobbits that inhabit the beloved novels by JRR Tolkien.

Wellington's streets were jammed with 100,000 people standing 15-deep to fete the stars, including Liv Tyler, Ian McKellen, Orlando Bloom, Viggo Mortensen and Elijah Wood. Bloom thrilled the crowd when he opened his jacket to reveal an "I love New Zealand" T-shirt. Mortensen greeted the crowd in Maori, the language of New Zealand's indigenous people.

All three films were shot in New Zealand over the past five years.

Fans roared as director Peter Jackson - a New Zealander - strode the red carpet toward the premiere showing.

"I'm feeling incredibly humbled by this wonderful reception," said Jackson. "You feel like you're the first people to land on the moon or something."

After the screening - the first time he'd seen the final cut - Jackson said he was pleased with his work.

"I heard a lot of sniffing and sobbing" during the trilogy's emotional climax, he said. "They were cheering ... and laughing in the right places."

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime for New Zealand," said fan Christine Hislop-Croft from the nearby town of Lower Hutt.

Wellington's streets were festooned with posters, up to eight stories tall, of "Rings" characters. Special postage stamps were printed to mark the occasion.

Jackson already has anointed "The Return of the King" as the best of the trilogy. It's also the longest, at 3 hours, 11 minutes.

The film opens in the United States on Dec. 17, in most of Western Europe the next day and in Asia on Dec. 20.

New Zealanders have taken the "Rings" trilogy to their hearts, recognizing their nation's breathtaking mountains, rivers and forests as backdrops in the films.

The countryside "made Middle Earth come to life," Jackson told lawmakers and guests at a parliamentary reception before the premiere.

Jackson told reporters he's looking forward to working on smaller, local films - "becoming a New Zealand filmmaker again" - although he first must finish another outsized project - his version of "King Kong."

McKellen, who plays the wizard Gandalf in the trilogy, paid tribute to U.S.-based New Line Cinema for putting trust in Jackson's vision.

"It is not often that you can congratulate a studio for courage, good judgment and for backing its filmmaker," he said.

New Line Cinema co-chairman Bob Shaye said the company took "a big risk."

"After we saw what a great job Peter did we felt incredibly encouraged about the other two," he told The Associated Press as he arrived for the premiere.

The trilogy's first two films - "The Fellowship of the Ring" and "The Two Towers" - have grossed \$2.9 billion at the box office worldwide.

New Line Cinema, a Time Warner subsidiary, is predicting at least \$1.3 billion from the third film.

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December 2, 2003

myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 02, 2003				As of: Monday, December 01, 2003 9:31:39 PM		
Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
00:00	NFL PRIMETIME	HEADLINE NEWS	AMERICAN CHOPPER	TODAY		00:00
00:30		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO			HEADLINE NEWS	00:30
01:00	AROUND THE HORN		TWISTER		LESTER HOLT LIVE	01:00
01:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION	THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN				01:30
02:00	ESPNEWS			SESAME STREET	HEADLINE NEWS	02:00
02:30	ESPNEWS	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD			NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	02:30
03:00	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - JOHN R. WOODEN TRADITION: IOWA VS LOUISVILLE	ESPNEWS	RUGRATS : - OFFICER CHUCKIE	DRAGON TALES : - BIG FUNKY CLOUD/ COPY CAT	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT	03:00
03:30		MONDAY NIGHT COUNTDOWN	SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS : - YOUR SHOE'S UNTIED / SQUID'S DAY OFF	WHEEL OF FORTUNE	CBS EVENING NEWS	03:30
04:00			THE SIMPSONS : - INSANE CLOWN POPPY	THE DR. PHIL SHOW	THE NEWSHOUR	04:00
04:30			HOME IMPROVEMENT : - ALL IN THE FAMILY			04:30
05:00	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - JOHN R. WOODEN TRADITION: INDIANA VS XAVIER	MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL - TENNESSEE TITANS @ NY JETS	J.A.G. : - READY OR NOT	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW : - BURNED ALIVE BY A DRUNK DRIVER	HANNITY & COLMES	05:00
06:00			THE PRACTICE : - THE CANDIDATE (PT.1&2)	NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	THE NEWS WITH BRIAN WILLIAMS	06:00
06:30				JUDGE JUDY		06:30
07:00	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - CUSA: KANSAS @ TCU			ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	BET NIGHTLY NEWS	07:00
07:25				GUIDING LIGHT		07:25
07:30					NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT	07:30
08:00			CLOSE ENCOUNTERS/THIRD KIND		LARRY KING LIVE	08:00
08:13				GENERAL HOSPITAL		08:13
08:30		HEADLINE NEWS				08:30
09:00	NFL TOTAL ACCESS	SESAME STREET		DISNEY'S PB&J OTTER : - BORN TO CHIRP/ MEG-A-MELON	NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN	09:00
09:30				WHAT'S NEW SCOOPY DOO? : - 3 - D STRUCTION		09:30
10:00	ESPNEWS	DRAGON TALES : - BIG FUNKY CLOUD/ COPY CAT		LIZZIE MCGUIRE : - FACTS OF LIFE	PAULA ZAHN NOW	10:00
10:30	ESPNEWS	WHEEL OF FORTUNE	WHOSE LINE IS IT ANYWAY	ALL THAT		10:30
11:00	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - ACC/BIG TEN CHALLENGE: NORTHWESTERN @ FLORIDA STATE	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW : - BURNED ALIVE BY A DRUNK DRIVER	RUGRATS : - OFFICER CHUCKIE	JEOPARDYI	NIGHTLINE	11:00
11:30			SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS : - YOUR SHOE'S UNTIED / SQUID'S DAY OFF	HEADLINE NEWS	AIR FORCE TV NEWS	11:30
11:52				PACIFIC REPORT		11:52
12:00		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	THE SIMPSONS : - INSANE CLOWN POPPY	ESPNEWS	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS	12:00
12:25		GUIDING LIGHT				12:25
12:30			HOME IMPROVEMENT : - ALL IN THE FAMILY	HEADLINE NEWS		12:30
12:52				PACIFIC REPORT		12:52
13:00	SPORTSCENTER		J.A.G. : - READY OR NOT	MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL - TENNESSEE TITANS @ NY JETS	THE O'REILLY FACTOR	13:00
13:13		GENERAL HOSPITAL				13:13
14:00	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - CUSA: NOTRE DAME @ MARQUETTE	HEADLINE NEWS	THE PRACTICE : - THE CANDIDATE (PT.1&2)		PRIMETIME	14:00
14:30		JUDGE JUDY				14:30
15:00		TODAY			GOOD MORNING AMERICA	15:00
16:00	SPORTSCENTER		CLOSE ENCOUNTERS/THIRD KIND	ESPNEWS		16:00
16:30				HEADLINE NEWS		16:30
16:52				PACIFIC REPORT		16:52
17:00	FIGURE SKATING - GRAND PRIX OF FIGURE SKATING: CUP OF CHINA	DISNEY'S PB&J OTTER : - BORN TO CHIRP/ MEG-A-MELON		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO	HEADLINE NEWS	17:00
17:30		WHAT'S NEW SCOOPY DOO? : - 3 - D STRUCTION			CHANNEL ONE	17:30
17:45					WORLD NEWS THIS MORNING	17:45
18:00		LIZZIE MCGUIRE : - FACTS OF LIFE		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN	THE EARLY SHOW	18:00
18:30		ALL THAT	WHOSE LINE IS IT ANYWAY			18:30
19:00	SPORTSCENTER	JEOPARDYI	RUGRATS : - OFFICER CHUCKIE	ARLINGTON ROAD		19:00
19:30		HEADLINE NEWS	SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS : - YOUR SHOE'S UNTIED / SQUID'S DAY OFF			19:30
20:00	NBA FASTBREAK	ESPNEWS	THE SIMPSONS : - INSANE CLOWN POPPY		FOX NEWS LIVE	20:00
20:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION	HEADLINE NEWS	HOME IMPROVEMENT : - ALL IN THE FAMILY			20:30
21:00	MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL - TENNESSEE TITANS @ NY JETS	SMALLVILLE : - LINEAGE	J.A.G. : - READY OR NOT		PRIMETIME	21:00
21:15				THREE FUGITIVES		21:15
22:00		SAVING JESSICA LYNCH	THE PRACTICE : - THE CANDIDATE (PT.1&2)		FOX NEWS LIVE	22:00
23:00				HEADLINE NEWS	HEADLINE NEWS	23:00
23:30				ESPNEWS	INSIDE POLITICS	23:30